

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-40. (CANCELED)

41. (Currently amended) A recombinant, non-replicative, non-infectious, lentiviral transfer vector, comprising:

non-infectious lentiviral nucleic acids, wherein the vector is deprived of functional genes encoding lentiviral Gag, Pol, and Env proteins;

a polynucleotide comprising a lentiviral, cis-acting central initiation region, which is the central polypurine tract ("cPPT"), and a lentiviral, cis-acting termination region, which is the central terminator sequence ("CTS"), wherein the cPPT and CTS are for formation of a DNA triplex, and wherein the cPPT and CTS are of the central polypurine tract ("cPPT") retroviral-like origin and derived from a retrotransposon and which form a triple-stranded sequence (DNA triplex);

a defined nucleotide sequence (transgene or sequence of interest); and  
regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression, and packaging, wherein said regulatory signals are of retroviral or retroviral-like origin;

and wherein ~~said transfer vector~~ the DNA triplex transfers the defined nucleotide sequence into the nucleus of a cell.

42. (Previously Presented) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the transgene or the sequence of interest is contained in an expression cassette comprising regulatory signals for transcription and expression.

43. (Previously Presented) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression, and packaging, and the polynucleotide comprising the cPPT and CTS regions are derived from an HIV-type retrovirus.

44. (Currently Amended) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the lentiviral nucleic acids are HIV-1 or HIV-2 nucleic acids, and the regulatory signals consist of HIV-1 or HIV-2 nucleic acids.

45. (Previously Presented) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the polynucleotide is a DNA sequence comprising the cis-acting central initiation region (cPPT) and the termination region (CTS) of an HIV-1 retroviral genome.

46. (Previously Presented) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the cPPT and CTS regions of a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 21, and SEQ ID NO: 33, or one of

these sequences mutated by deletion or insertion of one or more nucleotides, provided that the polynucleotide permits the formation of a triplex on reverse transcription of the vector under the control of suitable regulatory elements.

47-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) A recombinant vector according to claim 41, wherein the regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression and packaging, and the polynucleotide comprising the cPPT and CTS regions are derived from a yeast retrotransposon.

51. (Previously Presented) A recombinant cell comprising a vector according to claim 41.

52-61. (Cancelled)

62. (New) A non-infectious particle comprising the vector of any one of claims 41 to 46 or 50 to 51 in a protein envelope.

63. (New) A non-infectious particle according to claim 62, wherein Gag, Pol, and Env proteins from an HIV retrovirus are provided by one or more additional vector(s).

64. (New) A non-infectious particle according to claim 63, wherein the HIV retrovirus is HIV-1 or HIV-2.

65. (New) A non-infectious particle according to claim 64, wherein Gag and Pol proteins from an HIV retrovirus are provided by one or more additional vector(s), and Env proteins from a different HIV retrovirus or from a virus is provided by an additional vector.

66. (New) A recombinant, non-replicative, non-infectious, lentiviral transfer vector, comprising:

non-infectious lentiviral nucleic acids, wherein the vector is deprived of functional genes encoding lentiviral Gag, Pol, and Env proteins;

a polynucleotide comprising a lentiviral, cis-acting central initiation region, which is the central polypurine tract ("cPPT"), and a lentiviral, cis-acting termination region, which is the central terminator sequence ("CTS"), wherein the cPPT and CTS are for formation of a DNA triplex;

a defined nucleotide sequence (transgene or sequence of interest); and

regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression, and packaging, wherein said regulatory signals are of retroviral or retroviral-like origin;

and wherein the DNA triplex transfers the defined nucleotide sequence into the nucleus of a cell.

67. (New) A recombinant vector according to claim 66, wherein the transgene or the sequence of interest is contained in an expression cassette comprising regulatory signals for transcription and expression.

68. (New) A recombinant vector according to claim 66, wherein the regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression, and packaging, and the polynucleotide comprising the cPPT and CTS regions are derived from an HIV-type retrovirus.

69. (New) A recombinant vector according to claim 68, wherein the lentiviral nucleic acids are HIV-1 or HIV-2 nucleic acids, and the regulatory signals consist of HIV-1 or HIV-2 nucleic acids.

70. (New) A recombinant vector according to claim 66, wherein the polynucleotide is a DNA sequence comprising the cis-acting central initiation region (cPPT) and the termination region (CTS) of an HIV-1 retroviral genome.

71. (New) A recombinant vector according to claim 66, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the cPPT and CTS regions of a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 21, and SEQ ID NO: 33, or one of these sequences mutated by deletion or insertion of one or more nucleotides, provided that the

polynucleotide permits the formation of a triplex on reverse transcription of the vector under the control of suitable regulatory elements.

72. (New) A recombinant vector according to claim 66, wherein the regulatory signals for reverse transcription, expression and packaging, and the polynucleotide comprising the cPPT and CTS regions are derived from a yeast retrotransposon.

73. (New) A recombinant cell comprising a vector according to claim 66.

74. (New) A non-infectious particle comprising the vector of any one of claims 66 to 71 or 75 to 76 in a protein envelope.

75. (New) A non-infectious particle according to claim 74, wherein Gag, Pol, and Env proteins from an HIV retrovirus are provided by one or more additional vector(s).

76. (New) A non-infectious particle according to claim 75, wherein the HIV retrovirus is HIV-1 or HIV-2.

77. (New) A non-infectious particle according to claim 76, wherein Gag and Pol proteins from an HIV retrovirus are provided by one or more additional vector(s),

and Env proteins from a different HIV retrovirus or from a virus is provided by an additional vector.